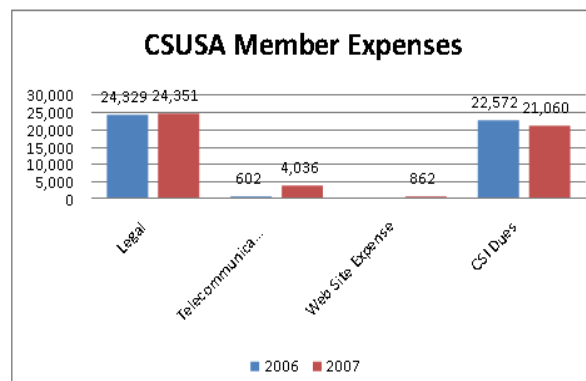
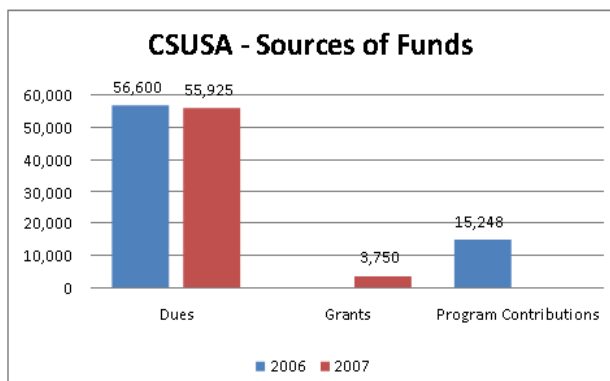




**CRIME STOPPERS USA, INC.
NATION/REGION REPORT – UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, INC.
CRIME STOPPERS INTERNATIONAL ANNUAL BOARD MEETING
DES MOINES, IOWA
AUGUST, 2008**

Member Programs and Services

We are pleased to say that year-to-date Crime Stoppers USA membership is up 15.3% over last fiscal year standing currently at 301 members, a direct result of the relationships we have been building with programs over the last few years. As reported previously, the IRS data base was accessed to determine that approximately 575 programs were found to be bone fide 501(c) 3, or equivalent, Crime Stoppers programs in the US, including those that are operating under alternate names other than Crime Stoppers, so we are chipping away at the nonmember totals. Research needs to still continue to verify actual programs – an endless task! Memberships have been ahead of 2007 since the beginning of the year, with dues still coming in through July. Correspondence was sent out in March recapping the guidelines for “official recognition” (accreditation) and that only member programs would be included on the CSI and Crime Stoppers USA web sites. Programs were reminded that the guidelines separate those programs out that might be police hot lines or rogue programs that may not follow any rules, are calling themselves Crime Stoppers, and could jeopardize the good works of all the legitimate programs around the world. For 2008, there are 60 members that had last renewed between 1995 and 2006; an additional 8 programs that had never been members of CSI or Crime Stoppers USA; and 7 brand new programs with a 2008 inception date with a prospect of at least two more before yearend. The Crime Stoppers USA Board of Directors has done a great job of contacting programs and updating CSIM so we can regularly correspond with programs. Board Secretary Margaret Jones did a great job leading that charge and kept the whip cracking!



Los Angeles Crime Stoppers is “under construction”. WebTips technology has been installed and, the 1-800-222-TIPS number is ready to start the testing phase. Neither the Board of Directors nor organizational structure has been set into place yet. Utilizing the Los Angeles Police Foundation is one option under consideration.

Programs are voicing legitimate financial issues that we are making a serious effort to address. In addition to two corporate grants written, an application was submitted in June to the US Federal Government for the Byrne Grant for National Initiatives. The three grants written address a variety of applications that are budgeted into the grants including program technology needs, National, Regional and on-line virtual training, the National School project,

and telecommunications projects including the 1-800-222-TIPS number. A Resource Development grants team has been put into place to continue the investigation of corporate and foundation grants.

The Texas based Energy Security Council (ESC) announced their partnership with Crime Stoppers programs across Texas. Beginning July 1, 2008, ESC will be sponsoring a state wide Energy Crime Stoppers hot line as a pro-active means of trying to reduce and solve theft and fraud in the energy sector. The Energy Crime Stoppers hot line will be manned by professional operators 24 hours per day, seven days per week. All tipsters calling in to the hot line will remain anonymous. Cash rewards of up to \$1000 will be paid when a tip results in an arrest or charges being filed against individual(s) responsible for theft, fraud, and other crimes committed against energy companies.

According to John Omohundro, Chairman of the ESC Law Enforcement Liaison Committee, "Thefts and fraud against energy, petrochemical, and related industry companies are on the rise as the cost of energy, in general, has increased. These crimes have a negative impact on energy production. This is especially true in the oil patches of Texas, where theft of oilfield and drilling equipment has increased dramatically during the past year." Initially, the Energy Crime Stoppers program is slated to be introduced statewide in Texas; however, it is widely believed that demand for this program will cause it to expand into other energy producing states within the next year. Crime Stoppers organizations from throughout Texas will be helping to promote this new program.

A survey addressing recent trends in tips was sent to member programs in May to determine if the soft US economy was having an affect on crime and the number of tips received. The survey was divided into three areas: 1) Were the programs experiencing more calls; 2) Were the number of crimes rising in their community; 3) Did technology used have an effect on the number of tips received. Results revealed that tips were up 5-70% for programs in communities that had been hit hardest by the weak economy, especially for those with a direct relationship with home foreclosures and unemployment. Crime was up in some areas that did not always correspond with the increase in tips. Some tipsters stated that they had never called previously or collected the reward on a tip, but needed the money for utilities, food, rent, gas, etc. Using 1-800-222-TIPS number, web tips, and 24/7 call centers were also sited as significantly boosting tips.

The NY Times wrote an article about Crime Stoppers and the economy in May (Google – Crime Stoppers NY Times for original article), which led to an avalanche of inquiries and publicity from all types of media including German radio. We also had an article byline in the July issue of Cosmopolitan magazine with a focus on "Summer Dangers". Calls to Crime Stoppers USA for national comment are also directed to member programs for a local perspective.

It is common knowledge that US statistics have been underreported, partially due to lost records that were recorded by hand before current technology availability and turnover in personnel. Programs have been asked to work toward putting those numbers together. Crime Stoppers USA will help when needed for posting into the data base. Many delinquent programs have just started to make those updates so it will be interesting to see how that changes the overall statistics numbers in the next few months.

US PROGRAM STATISTICS

	As of 12/31/2007	As of 07/28/2008	2008 YTD Increase
Arrests Made	429,326	462,486	7.7%
Cases Cleared	750,579	780,289	4.0%
Rewards Paid	\$64,951,169	\$69,026,961	6.3%
Property Recovered	\$988,951,755	\$1,031,339,397	4.3%
Drugs Seized	\$2,913,208,073	\$3,012,925,986	3.4%
Total Recovered	\$3,902,159,828	\$4,044,265,383	3.6%

Crime Stoppers USA Board members have been participating in several state and regional training venues this year. Crime Stoppers USA assisted with the training schedule and gave class presentations at the third Midwest Conference in Topeka, KS, the Wisconsin State Conference, and the Texas State Conference, and presented at the organizational meeting for Oklahoma State Crime Stoppers as they work to verify and unite all the programs in that state and bring them under the Crime Stoppers USA umbrella. Resource materials have also been updated, and a 2007 Annual report has been prepared to use as a marketing resource for programs.

National Projects and Resources

The national digital billboard project is in place thanks to the corporate office of Lamar Advertising and their donation, and due to the efforts of Sid Newman, Executive Director, and Baton Rouge Crime Stoppers for spearheading the effort. Lamar Advertising has over 600 digital billboards across the US and Canada, and have decided to offer space free to Amber Alert and to Crime Stoppers member programs to post fugitives and major cases. Normally this type of advertising would cost \$2,000-\$3,000 a month. Information can quickly be posted on digital billboards at the local, state, and national level which will be a big advantage if a fugitive is known to be on the move. A template was provided to programs that must be used to verify fugitives or cases before submitting for inclusion on a billboard. It is very important to validate the outstanding warrant on a fugitive immediately before submitting the fugitive to Lamar.

Expansion of the 1-800-222-TIPS number is rolling ahead. Crime Stoppers programs have enrolled in 26 states and DC, covering 93 million people and growing. A committee is making contacts to encourage use of the number first targeting programs that cover populations of 250,000+ but are not yet assigned to the number. The upcoming Los Angeles program will be utilizing the number as their primary number which will add at least another 4 million population.

In our continued quest to provide additional services to US Crime Stoppers programs, Crime Stoppers USA will hold its first National Training Conference August 23-30, 2009. At this point, Crime Stoppers USA has been partnering with smaller state and regional conferences and has not held national training, as do some of the other Nation/Regions, even though we have had many requests to do so. It has been discussed on several occasions that the rotation of the CSI conference among the Nation/Regions will bring a different look to each conference as delegates closer to that region have an opportunity to attend, often for the first time. The next time the CSI conference is scheduled in the US is 2011 or 2012. Crime Stoppers USA is required to hold a corporate AGM each year. A meeting was held in Calgary 2005, but otherwise they are held in the US. The AGM was held at a regional conference in 2007, but was not as effective. This year of course the meeting can attach to the Des Moines conference. Some programs have commented they are not allowed to use funds for foreign travel or training, as was the case in 2003, and others just do not have the funds required to cover the associated travel and conference expenses. It is important that we serve the US member programs and keep them apprised of topics that challenge them and are relevant to their programs. The Carnival Splendor was chosen for the conference accommodations due to the short planning period required, virtually no upfront liability for funds, the success of the past CSI Conference at Sea and other recent successful law enforcement training venues at sea, and an all inclusive program package. A date was planned to not conflict with the CSI conference and took into consideration pricing, and availability of an appropriate venue.

Respectively submitted,

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